

Country: Austria/Czechoslovakia/Greece/Yugoslavia

25X1A

Subject: Mining Activities

DATE 6 Oct 53

Place Acquired:

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RESPONSIVE

Date Acquired:

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Date of Info: Jul 53 - 10 Sep 53

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AUSTRIA

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1. "A new high of 258,650 metric tons of iron ores was mined during [REDACTED] Copper ore mining followed with 14,304 metric tons. Lead and zinc ores were mined to the extent of 5,981 metric tons, and antimony ore to 704 metric tons. Neither sulphurous ore nor gold ore was produced during [REDACTED]

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2. "The development of ore imports and exports, as recorded by the Austrian Statistical Office, is demonstrated in the figures listed below:

	<u>Tons Imported</u>		<u>Tons Exported</u>	
	<u>1st half</u>		<u>1st half</u>	
	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>
Pyrates	56,956	17,389	35,614	1,531
Iron ores	263,254	167,676	155,191	144,321
Manganese ore	2,924	3,694	--	--
Lead ores	1,894	2,180	--	--
Zinc ores	--	--	3,618	3,593
Antimony ores	--	--	100	323
Chromium ores	22,890	27,363	1,095	300
Wolfram ores	6	27	6	--

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3. "The 1953 Meeting of Austrian and German Mineralogists is scheduled for the period 11-22 Sep 53. Held in Leoben, Styria province, this meeting will be the 31st annual meeting held.

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-2-

DATE 6 Oct 53

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TOCZECHOSLOVAKIA

4. "Preparations are under way to mine uranium deposits found last year [1952] in the Slovakian area near Voishenk and Grueneval. The inhabitants of these two villages are very worried, reports say, because of the expected moves from their homes. They will have to leave their properties, while political prisoners and other forced laborers take over both villages and work for the Army-guarded mines.
5. New iron ore deposits were found in the West-Bohemian area between Vysina and Ejpvovice near Pilsen. Open-pit mining will start later this year [1953].

GREECE

6. "The [REDACTED], participates in the mining of nickel at [REDACTED] north of Athens. The assets brought into the joint [REDACTED] will consist of all mining machinery and equipment, to make possible an annual production of 130 thousand tons of nickel ore, with an Ni-content of at least 1%. The actual mining operations are to start during 1954.

YUGOSLAVIA

7. "A group of ten Yugoslav mining experts returned from a six weeks' trip to the US during the first week of [REDACTED]. Equipped with knowledge of the newest machinery, equipment, and work methods, these engineers are the backbone of Yugoslavia's drive toward mining of copper, zinc, lead, bismuth, gold, and silver for marketing in the free world.
8. "The Strnice aluminum plant, scheduled to assume operation at the beginning of [REDACTED] is complete as far as installations are concerned [REDACTED]. The shortage of electric energy, however, most probably will delay the actual start of regular production.
9. "A new magnesite-processing company was formed to operate in Ranko-Vicevo near Kraljevo; this plant is to make magnesite and chromium-magnesite stones for the furnaces of the Yugoslav iron industry. The raw material comes from the deposits of solid magnesite between Goles and Drenica. Mined in open-air, the deposits of Bela Stena, near Raska, are estimated to contain several million tons of magnesite.
10. "Systematic geological search programs have resulted in the location of rich new iron ore deposits. The Bosnian iron ore mine of Vares will be enlarged to yield an annual volume of 1,700,000 tons in a few years. New deposits were also found near Ljubija. The Bosansky area offers iron ore, and mining is expected to yield 300 thousand tons per annum in open-pit operation. Near Nova Litica, a deposit is located which is said to contain 500 thousand metric tons of iron.

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25X1A

DATE 6 Oct 53

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11. "Production of mercury from ore stemming from the Idria mine near Krain amounted to 504 metric tons during 1952. The ore's mercury content is stated to be 0.5%. It is hoped to push annual production to 600 metric tons, despite the low content of mercury in the ore."

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